ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The present invention provides a cross-linkable polymer compound which can be developed with an aqueous developer and exhibits excellent patterning properties; a photosensitive composition containing the same; and a pattern formation method employing the composition. The polymer compound containing monomer units represented by formulas (I) to (III):

$$\begin{array}{c}
 + \left(CH_{2} - C - \frac{H_{1}}{I} \right) \\
 + \left(CH_{2} - C + \frac{H_{2}}{I} - CH_{2} - CH_{2} - C \right) \\
 + \left(CH_{2} - CH_{2} - CH_{2} - C \right) \\
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$$\begin{array}{c}
-\left(CH_{2}-C\right) \xrightarrow{m} \\
C-O^{-}X^{+} \\
O
\end{array}$$

wherein each of R_1 to R_4 is hydrogen and/or a methyl group; p represents an integer between 1 to 10 inclusive; X represents hydrogen, an alkali metal, or an ammonium represented by formula (1):

$$R_{8}-N-R_{6}$$
 (1)

wherein each of R_5 to R_8 represents hydrogen, a C1-C3 alkyl group, or a C1-C3 alkanol group; and a plurality of Xs may be the same or different from one another, the compositional proportions of the monomer units falling within the following ranges: 2 mol% \leq 1 \leq 73 mol%; 8 mol% \leq m \leq 83 mol%; and 15 mol% \leq n \leq 80 mol%.